

-----  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE  
-----

Application Number:	10/586,115
Filed:	07/14/2006
Applicants:	Donald H. Eason
Title:	Telescoping Member Methods and Apparatus
Art Unit:	3679
Examiner:	Victor L. MacArthur
Assignees:	Ultimate Support Systems, Inc.
Attorney Docket:	USS-CollarClamp-USNP
Customer No.	33549
Confirmation No.:	3822

-----

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Introductory Comments:**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121 as amended, this amendment is made using the new format with each heading beginning on a separate page. The filing of this preliminary amendment was prompted by the Examiner's allowance (given in a telephone interview held on July 20, 2011 between Examiner Victor MacArthur and the undersigned) of claims 9 and 20. Before examining the above-referenced application, please amend the application according to the sections which follow and reconsider the application. It is noted that the independent claims now remaining in the application (after entry of the amendments filed herein) - claims 1 and 20 - are merely formerly dependent claims 9 and 20.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begins on page 10 of this Paper.